

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. *(Currently Amended)* A method for producing a nonwoven ~~web consisting comprising~~ at least partially of hydrophilic elementary fibers, ~~which involves the method comprising~~ continuously:

- ~~— producing~~ providing a fibrous web (10) ~~by carding or another conventional technique;~~
- ~~—~~ compressing and moistening said web;
- ~~—~~ subjecting the moistened and compressed web to a bonding treatment by means of water jets acting at least against one of ~~it's~~ the faces of the web, the web being supported by a rotary drum comprising an exterior having randomly distributed microperforations and an interior having at least some vacuum ~~, a partial vacuum being applied to the interior of said drum; and~~
- ~~— draining and drying the web transferring said bonded web to an assembly (32, 33) making it possible to drain and dry it before it is received, in particular in the form of a wound package,~~

characterized in that, after the bonding treatment (20) by means of water jets and before draining and drying and reception, the ~~prebonded and moistened~~ web is transferred to an additional assembly (28) for treatment by the action of one or more series of water jets, wherein said additional assembly ~~comprising comprises~~ a movable suction surface ~~taking the form of comprising~~ a drum covered with a ~~removable~~ sleeve defining an open-work structure (30) , the open-work structure comprising consisting of a woven bronze-wire cloth and shaped to have having a succession of raised zones having an upper part and recessed zones having a bottom, the raised zones being obtained by embossing; wherein the suction surface comprises a the ratio of emptiness in relation to the surface being of between 10 and 50%, and wherein the overall height between the bottom of the recessed parts zones and the upper part of the raised zones being is between 0.5 and 2 mm.

2-5. *(Cancelled)*